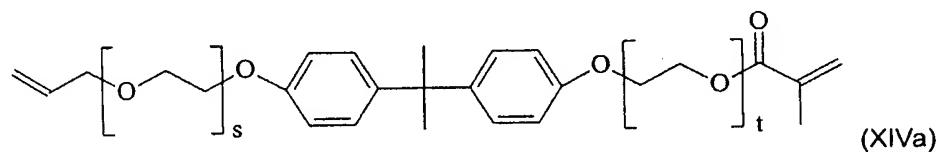


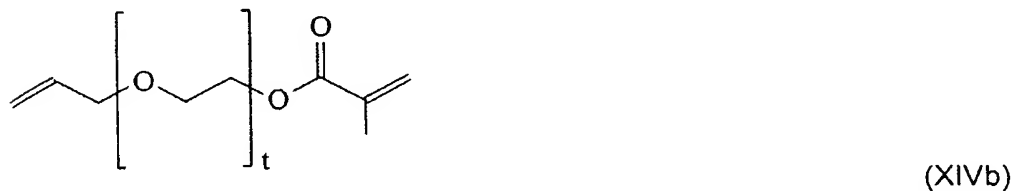
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Asymmetric crosslinking agents which are very particularly preferred according to the invention encompass compounds of the formula (XIV), in particular



where s and t are greater than or equal to zero and the sum s + t is preferably in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10,
and compounds of the formula (XIII), in particular



where ~~s and t are~~ s is greater than or equal to zero and ~~the sum s + t~~ t is preferably in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10.